

Appl. No. 10/038,380  
Reply to Office Action on 06/14/2004

REMARKS

This is in Response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2003.

Applicant's Attorney wishes to thank Examiner Purol for the telephone interview of June 14, 2004.

Claims 7 – 12 are pending in the application. Claims 7 – 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by the cited Thumann reference. Claims 10 – 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thumann in view of Poppema.

Claim 7 is the only independent claim in the application. Claims 8 – 12 are directly or indirectly independent from claim 7.

An amendment to claim 7 is enclosed. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested. As amended, claim 7 recites the decorative parts as having opposing surfaces adjoining the opening to be sealed by the screen. Claim 7, as amended, further recites that the frame section for mounting the roller rod comprises a securing edge mounted to one of the opposing side walls and the frame section for receiving the pulling beam is mounted to another of the opposing side walls.

It is submitted that the subject matter of claim 7 clearly distinguishes over the disclosure of the Thumann reference wherein, as shown in FIGS. 1 and 2 of Thumann, the housing 24 for storing the screen is mounted on outwardly facing side of one side of the frame and the pulling bar is mounted on the outwardly facing side of another side of the frame. It is respectfully submitted that the Thumann reference does not disclose a frame section with a securing edge mounted to one of the opposing side walls of the decorative parts.

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It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claim 7 is not identically disclosed in the cited reference wherein the housing for storing the screen and the latching mechanism for the pulling bar are on the outwardly facing sides of the frame.

With the amendments indicated above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Early notification for allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner consider that a telephone conference with Applicant's Attorney might be helpful in the disposition of the case, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicant's Attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 6/15/04

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AMENDMENT

7. A device for sealing an opening in a casing having an inner side and an outer side and opposing side walls having opposing surfaces adjoining said opening and first and second decorative parts disposed on said inner side, said decorative parts each having a opposing side walls disposed adjacent adjoining said opening said opening, said device comprising:

a roller rod;

a screen comprising an upper end and a lower end and a first side end mounted to said roller rod and a second side end, opposite said first side end;

a pulling beam mounted to said second side end;

a first frame section for mounting said roller rod, said first frame section comprising a securing edge mounted one of said opposing side walls to said side wall of one of said decorative parts; and

a second frame section for receiving said pulling beam, said second frame section comprising a securing edge mounted to another of said opposing side walls said side wall of another of said decorative parts.